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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/853,782	05/14/2001	Ikuya Morikawa	1081.1118	7025

21171 7590 08/27/2004

STAAS & HALSEY LLP
SUITE 700
1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER

BATES, KEVIN T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2155

DATE MAILED: 08/27/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/853,782	Applicant(s) MORIKAWA ET AL.	
	Examiner Kevin Bates	Art Unit 2155	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 May 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 5-5-04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This Office Action is in response to a communication made on May 14, 2001.

The Declaration and Foreign Priority Documents were received on July 12, 2001.

The Information Disclosure Statement was received on May 5, 2004.

Claims 1-6 are pending in this application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Gai (6167445).

Regarding claim 3, Gai discloses a communication setting management system including a plurality of management domains each having at least one communication entity (Column 6, lines 2 – 7), the domains existing via a network, wherein a communication setting management apparatus is disposed in each of the plurality of management domains (Column 10, lines 44 – 47), and the communication setting management apparatus disposed in a corresponding management domain imparts on a management domain basis, a different communication characteristics setting to communications between communication entities belonging to different management

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domains, the setting being managed on a corresponding management domain basis (Column 10, lines 38 – 47).

Regarding claims 1 and 4, Gai discloses a communication setting management system for distributing communication characteristics setting to a plurality of communication entities (Column 5, line 65 – Column 6, line 2), comprising setting template entry/edit means for entering or editing a setting template that collects contents to be set for the communication entities (Column 12, lines 21 – 30; Column 12, lines 6 – 9), with reference to information on a concrete method of setting the communication entities; setting template storing means for storing the setting template entered or edited by the setting template entry/edit means (Column 8, lines 1 – 5); application rule entry/edit means for entering or editing application rules prescribing rules of which setting template is to be applied to a communication having what kind of attribute (Column 12, lines 21 – 24); application rule storing means for storing the application rule input or edited by entry/edit means; and the application rule retrieval and response corresponding application rule storing means in accordance with the attribute of a destination function means for selecting a from the application rule communication entity to distribute the setting (Column 12, lines 21 – 24), reading from the setting template storing means a setting template having a setting template name specified by the application rule, and distributing the read setting template to the communication entity (Column 6, lines 10 – 26; Column 13, line 63 – Column 14, line 4).

Regarding claim 2, Gai discloses setting template collective entering means for collectively entering a group of previously defined setting templates into the setting template storing means (Column 13, line 63 – Column 14, line 4).

Regarding claim 5, Gai discloses a contradiction detection function unit for mutually interchanging information with a communication setting management apparatus disposed in the other management domain, and detecting a contradiction between the information and the setting template and the application rule of its own management domain (Column 17, lines 33 – 44).

Regarding claim 6, Gai discloses a contradiction modification function unit for modifying a contradiction at the time when a contradiction is detected that a setting template or setting templates specified by the contradiction detection function unit according to the application rule are not coincident with each other (Column 18, lines 32 – 35, where the policy translator handles conflicting roles and rules through priority).

Prior Art

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U. S. Patent No. 6738908 issued to Bonn, because it discloses using templates to define policies for network nodes.

U. S. Patent No. 6418468 issued to Ahlstrom, because it discloses detecting conflicts in user implemented policies.

U. S. Patent No. 6327618 issued to Ahlstrom, because it discloses detecting conflicts in user implemented policies.

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U. S. Patent No. 6381639 issued to Thebaut, because it discloses detecting and resolving conflicts in user implemented policies for network nodes.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kevin Bates whose telephone number is (703) 605-0633. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 am - 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain Alam can be reached on (703) 308-6662. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

KB

KB
August 26, 2004



HOSAIN ALAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER